



DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

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WEDNESDAY, MAY 30, 1990

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NEW SYSTEM FOR APPROVING COMPANY NAMES PROPOSED

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THE PURPOSE OF THE COMPANIES (AMENDMENT) (NO.5) BILL 1990 IS TO INTRODUCE A NEW SYSTEM FOR APPROVAL OF COMPANY NAMES WHICH IS BASED ON THE UK APPROACH AND IS INTENDED TO SHORTEN THE TIME REQUIRED TO REGISTER NEW COMPANIES, THE FINANCIAL SECRETARY, THE HON SIR PIERS JACOBS, TOLD THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL TODAY (WEDNESDAY).

MOVING THE SECOND READING OF THE BILL, SIR PIERS SAID UNDER THE EXISTING SYSTEM, THE REGISTRAR OF COMPANIES WAS REQUIRED TO DECIDE, BEFORE REGISTERING A COMPANY, WHETHER OR NOT THE PROPOSED NAME OF A NEW COMPANY BORE SUCH RESEMBLANCE TO THE NAME OF AN EXISTING COMPANY THAT OPPORTUNITIES EXISTED FOR DECEPTION.

HE SAID THE PRESENT SYSTEM ALSO ALLOWED APPLICANTS TO RESERVE A NAME FOR A PROPOSED COMPANY.

IN 1989, THE COMPANIES REGISTRY RECEIVED MORE THAN 20,000 APPLICATIONS EACH MONTH FOR RESERVATION OF COMPANY NAMES.

"OWING TO THE LARGE NUMBER OF APPLICATIONS AND THE LIMITED RESOURCES AVAILABLE, THE TIME TAKEN TO RESERVE A COMPANY NAME NOW VARIES BETWEEN FOUR TO SIX WEEKS.

"TOGETHER WITH THE OTHER PROCEDURES, INCLUDING THE PREPARATION OF INCORPORATION PAPERS BY THE APPLICANT AND THE ISSUE OF A CERTIFICATE OF INCORPORATION BY THE COMPANIES REGISTRY, THE WHOLE PROCESS OF REGISTERING A COMPANY CAN TAKE UP TO THREE MONTHS.

"THIS PROCESS IS UNSATISFACTORILY LONG. WE THEREFORE PROPOSE TO ADOPT A NEW, SIMPLER AND QUICKER SYSTEM BASED ON THE UK APPROACH," HE SAID.

SIR PIERS SAID UNDER THE PROPOSED NEW SYSTEM, A COMPANY NAME WOULD BE REGISTRABLE IF IT WAS NOT THE SAME AS A NAME ALREADY APPEARING IN THE INDEX OF COMPANY NAMES.

"HOWEVER, WHERE A NAME IS REGISTERED WHICH IS, IN THE OPINION OF THE REGISTRAR, TOO SIMILAR TO A NAME PREVIOUSLY ENTERED IN THE INDEX, THE REGISTRAR MAY, WITHIN 12 MONTHS OF REGISTRATION, DIRECT THE COMPANY TO CHANGE ITS NAME WITHIN SUCH PERIOD AS HE MAY SPECIFY," HE SAID.

THE INTRODUCTION OF THE NEW SYSTEM WOULD RESULT IN THE NAME RESERVATION SYSTEM BEING ABOLISHED.

EXISTING STAFF RESOURCES COULD BE REDEPLOYED AND IT WAS AIMED TO INCORPORATE NEW COMPANIES WITHIN A PERIOD OF FIVE TO 10 DAYS, INSTEAD OF UP TO THREE MONTHS AS AT PRESENT.

ON PUBLIC SEARCH, SIR PIERS SAID UNDER THE NEW SYSTEM, THE REGISTRAR WOULD NO LONGER BE RESPONSIBLE FOR DECIDING WHETHER A PROPOSED NAME WAS TOO SIMILAR TO AN EXISTING COMPANY NAME.

"IN FUTURE, THIS RESPONSIBILITY WILL FALL ON THE PARTY REGISTERING THE NEW COMPANY.

/"TO THIS

"TO THIS END, FACILITIES FOR NAME SEARCHES WILL BE MADE AVAILABLE TO THE PUBLIC FREE OF CHARGE AT THE PUBLIC SEARCH AREA OF THE COMPANIES REGISTRY," HE SAID.

ON A TRANSITIONAL PERIOD, SIR PIERS SAID MANY PROFESSIONAL FIRMS HAD BUILT UP "NAME BANKS" OF RESERVED NAMES IN THE COMPANIES REGISTRY.

TO AVOID A RUSH TO RUN DOWN THESE NAME BANKS, IT WAS PROPOSED THAT THERE SHOULD BE A TRANSITIONAL PERIOD OF THREE MONTHS BEFORE THE NEW SYSTEM CAME INTO FORCE.

"FROM THE START OF THIS PERIOD, NO NEW APPLICATION FOR NAME RESERVATION OR FOR RENEWAL OF RESERVATION WILL BE ACCEPTED, AND UNPROCESSED APPLICATIONS WILL BE DROPPED.

"IT WILL STILL BE POSSIBLE TO INCORPORATE A COMPANY DURING THE TRANSITIONAL PERIOD, EVEN IF THE NAME OF THE COMPANY HAS NOT BEEN RESERVED.

"HOWEVER, AT THE END OF THE TRANSITIONAL PERIOD, ALL RESERVED NAMES STILL UNUSED WILL LAPSE," HE SAID.

DEBATE ON THE BILL WAS ADJOURNED.

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BILL INTENDED TO REMEDY WEAKNESSES IN PROCEDURE
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THE COMPANIES (AMENDMENT) (NO. 4) BILL 1990 IS INTENDED TO REMEDY WEAKNESSES IN THE PROCEDURE FOR CONVERSION FROM A COMPULSORY WINDING-UP OF A COMPANY TO A CREDITORS' VOLUNTARY WINDING-UP, THE FINANCIAL SECRETARY, THE HON SIR PIERS JACOBS, TOLD THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL TODAY (WEDNESDAY).

MOVING THE SECOND READING OF THE BILL, SIR PIERS SAID SECTION 209A OF THE COMPANIES ORDINANCE, INTRODUCED IN 1984, PROVIDED THAT THE COURT MIGHT, UPON APPLICATION BY THE LIQUIDATOR OR ANY CREDITOR, ALLOW A COMPULSORY WINDING-UP TO BE CONVERTED AND CONDUCTED AS IF IT WERE A CREDITORS' VOLUNTARY WINDING-UP, AND THIS PROVISION WAS CONSIDERED UNSATISFACTORY.

SIR PIERS EXPLAINED THAT THE OFFICIAL RECEIVER WAS APPOINTED LIQUIDATOR IN MOST COMPULSORY WINDING-UP PROCEEDINGS ORDERED BY A COURT, BUT NOT IN A VOLUNTARY WINDING-UP.

"WHEN HE IS APPOINTED AS LIQUIDATOR, THE OFFICIAL RECEIVER CHARGES FEES PROPORTIONATE TO THE AMOUNT OF ASSETS REALISED IN ORDER TO RECOVER THE COST OF THE WORK DONE," HE SAID.

/HOWEVER, SECTION

HOWEVER, SECTION 209A DID NOT SPECIFY A TIME LIMIT FOR MAKING ANY APPLICATION FOR CONVERSION FROM A COMPULSORY WINDING-UP TO A VOLUNTARY WINDING-UP.

"CREDITORS ARE ABLE TO APPLY FOR CONVERSION AT ANY TIME DURING THE COURSE OF A COMPULSORY LIQUIDATION," SIR PIERS SAID.

"THIS FREEDOM STRIKES AT THE BASIS OF THE BARGAIN MADE WITH THE OFFICIAL RECEIVER.

"IN EFFECT IT ENABLES CREDITORS TO SEEK CONVERSION SHORTLY BEFORE THE REALISATION OF ASSETS IN ORDER TO AVOID FEES BEING PAID TO THE OFFICIAL RECEIVER."

TO RECTIFY THE SITUATION, THE BILL PROPOSED THAT AN APPLICATION FOR CONVERSION SHOULD BE MADE WITHIN THREE MONTHS OF THE DATE OF A RESOLUTION PASSED AT THE FIRST MEETING OF THE CREDITORS OR ANY ADJOURNMENT OF THAT MEETING OR WITHIN SUCH FURTHER PERIOD AS THE COURT MIGHT PERMIT.

"WE BELIEVE THIS WILL GIVE SUFFICIENT TIME FOR CREDITORS TO REACH A DECISION ON THE BEST WAY FORWARD AND TO PREPARE THE NECESSARY DOCUMENTS FOR PRESENTATION TO THE COURT," SIR PIERS SAID.

SIR PIERS ALSO SAID SECTION 209A DID NOT SUFFICIENTLY SAFEGUARD THE PUBLIC INTEREST.

"THE EFFECT OF A CONVERSION TO A CREDITORS' VOLUNTARY WINDING-UP IS TO REMOVE THE LIQUIDATION FROM THE COURT'S SUPERVISION," HE SAID.

"THERE MAY BE GOOD REASONS IN THE PUBLIC INTEREST THAT AN APPLICATION SHOULD BE OPPOSED OR DENIED," HE ADDED.

AT PRESENT, THE OFFICIAL RECEIVER HAD NO RIGHT OF AUDIENCE BEFORE THE COURT, AND THE COURT WAS ONLY REQUIRED TO TAKE INTO ACCOUNT THE WISHES OF CREDITORS AND CONTRIBUTORIES IN DECIDING AN APPLICATION.

THE BILL THEREFORE PROPOSED THAT A REPORT ON THE APPLICATION SHOULD BE SUBMITTED TO THE COURT BY THE LIQUIDATOR, AND THAT THE OFFICIAL RECEIVER SHOULD HAVE THE RIGHT TO BE HEARD.

IT ALSO PROPOSED THAT THE COURT SHOULD HAVE REGARD TO VARIOUS MATTERS RELATING TO THE PUBLIC INTEREST IN DECIDING WHETHER AN APPLICATION SHOULD BE ACCEPTED.

"THESE ARE, ESSENTIALLY, WHETHER OR NOT THERE HAS BEEN AN INVESTIGATION, PROSECUTION OR CONVICTION OF OFFICERS OF THE COMPANY FOR FRAUD, DISHONESTY, MISFEASANCE OR OTHER BREACH OF DUTY IN RELATION TO THE AFFAIRS OF THE COMPANY," SIR PIERS ADDED.

SIR PIERS SAID ON THE TECHNICAL CONSEQUENCES INVOLVED IN A CONVERSION FROM A COMPULSORY TO A VOLUNTARY WINDING-UP, THE BILL PROPOSED THAT THEY BE DEALT WITH BY GIVING THE COURT A GENERAL POWER OF DIRECTION.

"FURTHERMORE, A TRANSITIONAL PERIOD WILL BE REQUIRED TO GIVE CREDITORS OF COMPANIES IN LIQUIDATION AN OPPORTUNITY TO EXERCISE THIS RIGHT BEFORE IT LAPSES, AND THIS IS PROVIDED FOR IN THE PROPOSED NEW SECTION 209C," HE ADDED.

DEBATE ON THE BILL WAS ADJOURNED.

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AG PROVIDES CHRONOLOGY OF PROCEEDINGS CONCERNING OSMAN EXTRADITION
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A CHRONOLOGY OF PROCEEDINGS REGARDING THE EXTRADITION OF MR LORRAIN OSMAN WAS PROVIDED BY THE ATTORNEY GENERAL, THE HON JEREMY MATHEWS, IN THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL TODAY (WEDNESDAY).

IN REPLYING TO A QUESTION FROM THE HON JAMES MCGREGOR, MR MATHEWS SAID HE WAS ANXIOUS TO SAY NOTHING WHICH COULD PREJUDICE THE EXTRADITION PROCEEDINGS AGAINST MR OSMAN, THE CASE WHICH WOULD FOLLOW HIS EXTRADITION, OR INDEED ANY RELATED PROCEEDINGS.

THE ATTORNEY GENERAL SAID MR OSMAN WAS ARRESTED IN THE UNITED KINGDOM ON DECEMBER 6, 1985 UNDER A PROVISIONAL WARRANT OF ARREST ISSUED ON DECEMBER 2, 1985.

"THE HEARING OF EXTRADITION PROCEEDINGS AT BOW STREET MAGISTRATES COURT IN LONDON COMMENCED ON MAY 27, 1986. IT WAS COMPLETED A YEAR LATER.

"ON JUNE 1, 1987 HE WAS COMMITTED TO PRISON TO AWAIT HIS RETURN TO HONG KONG ON 42 CHARGES INCLUDING CHARGES OF CONSPIRACY TO DEFRAUD, CONSPIRACY TO STEAL, ACCEPTING ADVANTAGES, THEFT AND FALSE ACCOUNTING. THE CHARGES INVOLVE A SUM IN EXCESS OF 800 MILLION U.S. DOLLARS.

"SINCE THEN MR OSMAN HAS PURSUED NUMEROUS APPLICATIONS AND APPEALS BEFORE THE COURTS IN THE UNITED KINGDOM, HONG KONG AND MALAYSIA AND BEFORE THE EUROPEAN COMMISSION OF HUMAN RIGHTS," MR MATHEWS SAID.

HE SAID THAT BECAUSE OF THE NUMBER AND DETAIL OF THESE PROCEEDINGS A CHRONOLOGY HAD BEEN PROVIDED FOR MEMBERS' BENEFIT.

MR MATHEWS SAID: "IN ESSENCE MR OSMAN HAS MADE FOUR APPLICATIONS FOR WRITS OF HABEAS CORPUS. THE FOURTH IS PENDING. THE FIRST THREE SUCH APPLICATIONS HAVE BEEN UNSUCCESSFUL, AS HAVE THE VARIOUS APPEALS WHICH MR OSMAN HAS PURSUED FROM THE DETERMINATION OF THESE APPLICATIONS FOR HABEAS CORPUS.

"MR OSMAN'S FOURTH APPLICATION FOR A WRIT OF HABEAS CORPUS HAS BEEN SET DOWN FOR HEARING IN THE DIVISIONAL COURT IN LONDON ON JUNE 19, 1990 BUT THAT HEARING WILL BE PRECEDED BY A HEARING OF AN APPLICATION BY MR OSMAN SEEKING DISCLOSURE OF CERTAIN DOCUMENTS.

"MR OSMAN HAS APPEALED AGAINST A DECISION OF THE HIGH COURT OF MALAYSIA STRIKING OUT HIS APPLICATION FOR JUDICIAL REVIEW. THAT APPEAL IS EXPECTED TO BE HEARD IN THE MALAYSIAN SUPREME COURT IN SEPTEMBER OF THIS YEAR.

"MR OSMAN HAS ALSO LODGED WITH THE EUROPEAN COMMISSION OF HUMAN RIGHTS A FURTHER COMPLAINT WHICH HAS YET TO BE DETERMINED."

THE FOLLOWING IS THE CHRONOLOGY OF PROCEEDINGS PROVIDED BY THE ATTORNEY GENERAL AS AN ANNEX TO HIS REPLY:

6 DECEMBER 1985

MR OSMAN ARRESTED ON PROVISIONAL EXTRADITION WARRANT.

7 DECEMBER 1985

MR OSMAN REMANDED IN CUSTODY.

14-16 JANUARY 1986

MR OSMAN WAS UNSUCCESSFUL IN AN APPEAL TO THE SUPREME COURT OF MALAYSIA CONCERNING AN ORDER OF THE HIGH COURT OF MALAYSIA RELATING TO THE EXAMINATION OF WITNESSES.

24 JANUARY 1986

HOME OFFICE ISSUED AUTHORITY TO BOW STREET MAGISTRATES TO PROCEED WITH EXTRADITION CASE UNDER FUGITIVE OFFENDERS ACT 1967, IN RESPECT OF AN ARREST WARRANT ISSUED IN HONG KONG ON JANUARY 20, 1986.

18 APRIL 1986

MR OSMAN WAS UNSUCCESSFUL IN A FURTHER APPLICATION TO THE SUPREME COURT OF MALAYSIA CONCERNING THE EXAMINATION OF WITNESSES.

25 APRIL 1986

FURTHER WARRANT OF ARREST ISSUED IN HONG KONG IN RESPECT OF 43 OFFENCES.

13 MAY 1986

SECOND AUTHORITY TO PROCEED ISSUED SUPERSEDING THE AUTHORITY TO PROCEED OF JANUARY 24, 1986.

27 MAY 1986

EXTRADITION PROCEEDINGS BEGAN AT BOW STREET.

1 JUNE 1987

BOW STREET MAGISTRATE COMMITTED MR OSMAN TO AWAIT THE HOME SECRETARY'S ORDER FOR SURRENDER TO HONG KONG.

10 JUNE 1987

APPLICATION BY MR OSMAN FOR WRIT OF HABEAS CORPUS TO HAVE THE MAGISTRATE'S DECISION SET ASIDE ON GROUNDS OF THE SUFFICIENCY OF EVIDENCE.

30 JUNE 1987

COMPLAINT TO EUROPEAN COMMISSION OF HUMAN RIGHTS.

6 JULY 1987

MR OSMAN APPLIED TO THE HIGH COURT OF HONG KONG FOR LEAVE TO APPLY FOR JUDICIAL REVIEW. THE APPLICATION IS REFUSED.

JULY 1987

FOREIGN AND COMMONWEALTH OFFICE RECEIVED A CLAIM ON BEHALF OF MR OSMAN REGARDING DIPLOMATIC IMMUNITY.

20 NOVEMBER 1987

MR OSMAN'S APPEAL AGAINST THE DECISION OF JULY 6, 1987 WAS CONDITIONALLY WITHDRAWN FROM THE COURT OF APPEAL OF HONG KONG.

12 JANUARY 1988

MR OSMAN'S APPLICATION TO THE HIGH COURT OF HONG KONG FOR JUDICIAL REVIEW OF THE GOVERNOR'S REQUEST FOR HIS EXTRADITION WAS REFUSED.

30 MARCH 1988

AFTER FOUR WEEKS HEARING DIVISIONAL COURT DISMISSED THE FIRST APPLICATION FOR WRIT OF HABEAS CORPUS.

/26 APRIL

26 APRIL 1988

COURT OF APPEAL OF HONG KONG REFUSED MR OSMAN'S APPEAL IN RESPECT OF THE DECISION OF JANUARY 12, 1988.

29 APRIL 1988

DIVISIONAL COURT REFUSED LEAVE TO APPEAL TO HOUSE OF LORDS IN RESPECT OF THE DISMISSAL OF HIS APPLICATION ON MARCH 30, 1988.

13 MAY 1988

MR OSMAN PETITIONED HOUSE OF LORDS DIRECT FOR LEAVE TO APPEAL AND MADE SECOND APPLICATION FOR WRIT OF HABEAS CORPUS ON GROUNDS OF DIPLOMATIC IMMUNITY.

14 JULY 1988

PETITION TO HOUSE OF LORDS REJECTED.

6 SEPTEMBER 1988

THE HIGH COURT OF MALAYSIA GRANTED A STAY OF A WITNESS EXAMINATION ORDER PENDING AN APPEAL BY MR OSMAN TO THE SUPREME COURT OF MALAYSIA.

20 OCTOBER 1988

PRIVY COUNCIL REFUSED MR OSMAN'S APPLICATION FOR SPECIAL LEAVE TO APPEAL AGAINST THE DECISION OF THE HONG KONG COURT OF APPEAL OF APRIL 26, 1988.

17 AND 21 OCTOBER 1988

DIVISIONAL COURT HEARING OF SECOND APPLICATION FOR WRIT OF HABEAS CORPUS.

9 NOVEMBER 1988

THE HIGH COURT OF HONG KONG GRANTED MR OSMAN LEAVE TO APPLY FOR JUDICIAL REVIEW IN RESPECT OF THE ISSUE OF WARRANTS.

28 NOVEMBER 1988

APPLICATION BY MR OSMAN TO THE DIVISIONAL COURT TO FURTHER ADJOURN THE SECOND APPLICATION FOR WRIT OF HABEAS CORPUS IS REFUSED.

21 DECEMBER 1988

DIVISIONAL COURT DISMISSED SECOND APPLICATION FOR WRIT OF HABEAS CORPUS SOUGHT ON THE BASIS OF DIPLOMATIC IMMUNITY AND ABUSE OF PROCESS.

19 JANUARY 1989

DIVISIONAL COURT REFUSED LEAVE TO APPEAL TO THE HOUSE OF LORDS.

27 JANUARY 1989

THE HIGH COURT OF HONG KONG REFUSED MR OSMAN'S APPLICATION FOR JUDICIAL REVIEW AND FOR A DECLARATION.

24 FEBRUARY 1989

MR OSMAN PETITIONED HOUSE OF LORDS DIRECT FOR LEAVE TO APPEAL IN RESPECT OF THE DISMISSAL OF HIS APPLICATION ON DECEMBER 21, 1988.

13 MARCH 1989

EUROPEAN COMMISSION DECLARED INADMISSIBLE MR OSMAN'S COMPLAINT UNDER THE EUROPEAN CONVENTION ON HUMAN RIGHTS.

17 MARCH 1989

MR OSMAN GRANTED AN ORDER BY THE SUPREME COURT OF HONG KONG RELATING TO LETTERS OF REQUEST TO MALAYSIA.

22 MARCH 1989

ORDER OF HIGH COURT OF MALAYSIA RELATING TO THE EXAMINATION OF WITNESSES BY MR OSMAN.

4 MAY 1989

COURT OF APPEAL, HONG KONG QUASHED THE ARREST WARRANT ISSUED IN HONG KONG ON NOVEMBER 30, 1985, ON THE GROUND THAT IT HAD BEEN VITIATED BY BIAS.

9 MAY 1989

MR OSMAN'S SOLICITORS SOUGHT ADJOURNMENT OF THEIR PETITION OF FEBRUARY 24, 1989 FOR LEAVE TO APPEAL TO THE HOUSE OF LORDS AND GAVE NOTICE OF THEIR INTENTION TO MAKE A THIRD APPLICATION FOR HABEAS CORPUS BECAUSE OF THE QUASHING IN HONG KONG OF THE WARRANT OF NOVEMBER 30, 1985, AND THE ISSUE OF A DIPLOMATIC NOTE BY THE LIBERIAN AMBASSADOR RELATING TO MR OSMAN'S CLAIM OF DIPLOMATIC IMMUNITY.

5 JUNE 1989

MR OSMAN APPLIED TO THE HIGH COURT OF MALAYSIA FOR A DECLARATION RELATING TO THE PROCEEDINGS AND TO THE LETTERS OF REQUEST.

6 JUNE 1989

MR OSMAN APPLIED TO THE DIVISIONAL COURT FOR A WRIT OF HABEAS CORPUS FOR A THIRD TIME.

26 JULY 1989

THE DIVISIONAL COURT REFUSED MR OSMAN'S APPLICATION FOR BAIL.

26 SEPTEMBER 1989

APPLICATION FOR JUDICIAL REVIEW BY MR OSMAN DEFERRED TO START OF HABEAS CORPUS PROCEEDINGS WHICH WERE DUE IN THE DIVISIONAL COURT ON OCTOBER 3.

4 OCTOBER 1989

JUDICIAL REVIEW PROCEEDINGS BEGAN, TO BE FOLLOWED BY HABEAS CORPUS PROCEEDINGS ON THE QUESTION OF WHAT CONSTITUTED "RELEVANT OFFENCES" FOR THE PURPOSES OF MR OSMAN'S EXTRADITION.

5 OCTOBER 1989

APPLICATION FOR INDEPENDENT ENQUIRY REFUSED. APPLICATION FOR BAIL REFUSED. CASE ADJOURNED TO OCTOBER 19.

26 OCTOBER 1989

THE DIVISIONAL COURT ADJOURNED FOR JUDGMENT ON BOTH JUDICIAL REVIEW AND HABEAS CORPUS PROCEEDINGS.

1 NOVEMBER 1989

HIGH COURT OF MALAYSIA ADJOURNED PART HEARD THE CROWN'S APPLICATION TO STRIKE OUT AN APPLICATION BY MR OSMAN FOR JUDICIAL REVIEW.

17 NOVEMBER 1989

THE DIVISIONAL COURT DISMISSED MR OSMAN'S APPLICATIONS FOR JUDICIAL REVIEW AND HABEAS CORPUS. THE COURT DECIDED THAT MR OSMAN HAD BEEN LAWFULLY ARRESTED AND THERE HAD BEEN NO DISHONESTY OR ABUSE OF PROCESS.

/5 DECEMBER

5 DECEMBER 1989

THE DIVISIONAL COURT REFUSED LEAVE TO APPEAL TO THE HOUSE OF LORDS IN RESPECT OF THE DISMISSAL OF NOVEMBER 17, 1989.

12 DECEMBER 1989

HIGH COURT OF MALAYSIA, HAVING RESUMED THE PART HEARD HEARING OF NOVEMBER 1, 1989 RESERVED JUDGMENT UNTIL JANUARY 6, 1990.

15 DECEMBER 1989

MR OSMAN LODGED A FURTHER PETITION FOR LEAVE TO APPEAL TO THE HOUSE OF LORDS DIRECT, AGAINST THE DIVISIONAL COURT'S JUDGMENT (ON THE THIRD HABEAS CORPUS APPLICATION) OF NOVEMBER 17, 1989.

6 JANUARY 1990

HIGH COURT OF MALAYSIA STRUCK OUT MR OSMAN'S APPLICATION FOR A DECLARATION.

1 FEBRUARY 1990

MR OSMAN'S OUTSTANDING PETITIONS FOR LEAVE TO APPEAL TO THE HOUSE OF LORDS WERE REFUSED BY THE HOUSE OF LORDS APPEAL COMMITTEE.

5 FEBRUARY 1990

MR OSMAN LODGED HIS FOURTH HABEAS CORPUS APPLICATION.

23 MARCH 1990

MR OSMAN APPEALED TO THE SUPREME COURT OF MALAYSIA IN RESPECT OF THE DECISION OF JANUARY 6, 1990.

30 MARCH 1990

MR OSMAN'S APPLICATION TO A MAGISTRATE IN HONG KONG FOR THE ISSUE OF A SUBPOENA UNDER SECTION 104A OF THE MAGISTRATES ORDINANCE IS ADJOURNED.

10 APRIL 1990

MR OSMAN APPLIED FOR SUMMONS FOR DISCOVERY IN RESPECT OF HIS FOURTH APPLICATION FOR HABEAS CORPUS.

/15 MAY

15 MAY 1990

MR OSMAN'S APPLICATION UNDER SECTION 104A OF THE MAGISTRATES ORDINANCE WAS STRUCK OUT.

25 MAY 1990

MR OSMAN APPLIED TO A MAGISTRATE IN HONG KONG FOR A FURTHER SUBPOENA UNDER SECTION 104A. HIS APPLICATION WAS REFUSED.

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FACSIMILE COPIES OF DOCUMENTS GENERALLY ACCEPTABLE

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THE CHIEF SECRETARY, THE HON SIR DAVID FORD, TOLD THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL TODAY (WEDNESDAY) FACSIMILE COPIES OF DOCUMENTS RECEIVED FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC ARE GENERALLY ACCEPTABLE TO GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENTS IN MATTERS CONCERNING COMPLAINTS, ENQUIRIES AND FILING OF RETURNS.

SIR DAVID WAS REPLYING TO A QUESTION FROM THE HON PETER H.Y. WONG, WHO HAD ASKED TO WHAT EXTENT WERE FACSIMILE COPIES OF DOCUMENTS ACCEPTABLE BY GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENTS IN MATTERS CONCERNING COMPLAINTS, ENQUIRIES, AND FILING OF RETURNS.

MR WONG HAD ALSO ASKED WHETHER LEGISLATIVE CHANGES WOULD BE EFFECTED TO PERMIT FACSIMILE MACHINES TO BE USED TO SERVE LEGAL DOCUMENTS SUCH AS NOTICES AND WRITS.

SIR DAVID SAID THE SUPREME COURT AND DISTRICT COURT RULES GOVERNED THE SERVICE OF WRITS, NOTICES AND OTHER PROCESS ISSUED OUT OF THOSE COURTS.

"UNDER THE RULES OF COURT TRANSMISSION OF A COPY OF THOSE DOCUMENTS BY FACSIMILE MACHINE IS NOT EFFECTIVE AS PERSONAL SERVICE OF SUCH PAPERS BECAUSE IT IS NOT POSSIBLE FOR THE SENDER TO PROVE THAT SUCH A DOCUMENT WAS DELIVERED TO THE PARTY TO WHOM IT WAS ADDRESSED.

"AT MOST, THE SENDER CAN PROVE THAT SUCH A DOCUMENT WAS SENT TO A FACSIMILE MACHINE ON A PARTICULAR TELEPHONE NUMBER," HE SAID.

SIR DAVID ALSO POINTED OUT THERE WERE ALSO PROBLEMS CONCERNED WITH PROOF THAT ANY DOCUMENT RECEIVED BY FACSIMILE MACHINE WAS GENUINE.

"THE RULES MAY BE ALTERED BY THE RULES COMMITTEES OF THE TWO COURTS, BUT THERE HAS NOT BEEN ANY PRESSURE FROM THE LEGAL PROFESSION TO CHANGE THE RULES OF COURT TO FACILITATE SERVICE BY FACSIMILE MACHINE," HE ADDED.

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FIGURES ON BDTC RETURNING RESIDENTS IN UK

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THE SECRETARY FOR SECURITY, THE HON ALISTAIR ASPREY, TOLD THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL TODAY (WEDNESDAY) HE HAD BEEN INFORMED BY THE UNITED KINGDOM IMMIGRATION AUTHORITIES THAT SOME 3,500 HONG KONG BRITISH DEPENDENT TERRITORIES CITIZENS WERE ADMITTED TO THE UNITED KINGDOM AS RETURNING RESIDENTS DURING 1989.

REPLYING TO A QUESTION FROM THE HON SO CHAU YIM-PING, MR ASPREY SAID THIS FIGURE, HOWEVER, MIGHT INCLUDE AN ELEMENT OF DOUBLE COUNTING, SINCE SOME MIGHT WELL HAVE DEPARTED AND ENTERED THE UNITED KINGDOM ON MORE THAN ONE OCCASION.

MR ASPREY ALSO SAID THE HONG KONG GOVERNMENT WAS NOT CONSULTED ABOUT THE RECENT AMENDMENT TO UK IMMIGRATION RULE 58, BUT WAS INFORMED OF THE AMENDMENT BEFORE IT CAME INTO FORCE.

"WE HAVE BEEN ADVISED THAT THE AMENDMENT IS TECHNICAL IN NATURE, AND DOES NOT REPRESENT ANY CHANGE IN POLICY OR PRACTICE," HE ADDED.

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GOOD PROGRESS ON AIR SERVICES AGREEMENTS

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GOOD PROGRESS HAS BEEN MADE IN NEGOTIATIONS FOR AND ESTABLISHMENT OF AIR SERVICE AGREEMENTS BETWEEN HONG KONG AND VARIOUS COUNTRIES, THE ACTING SECRETARY FOR ECONOMIC SERVICES, THE HON RAFAEL HUI, TOLD THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL TODAY (WEDNESDAY).

IN REPLY TO A QUESTION FROM THE HON MARTIN LEE, MR HUI SAID SINCE THE SIGNING OF THE JOINT DECLARATION IN 1984, HONG KONG HAD CONCLUDED FOUR AIR SERVICES AGREEMENTS (OR ASA'S) WITH THE NETHERLANDS, SWITZERLAND, CANADA AND BRUNEI.

"ANOTHER ASA IS EXPECTED TO BE SIGNED WITHIN THE NEXT MONTH OR SO.

"IN ADDITION THE TEXTS OF FIVE MORE DRAFT ASA'S HAVE BEEN NEGOTIATED AND WILL BE SIGNED ONCE THE USUAL PROCEDURES HAVE BEEN COMPLETED," HE SAID.

MR HUI SAID THAT NEGOTIATIONS WITH SEVEN OTHER COUNTRIES HAD BEGUN AND WERE AT VARIOUS STAGES OF PROGRESS.

IT WAS EXPECTED THAT NEGOTIATIONS FOR ASA'S WITH HONG KONG'S REMAINING AIR SERVICES PARTNERS WOULD TAKE PLACE AS AND WHEN OPPORTUNITIES AROSE.

HE ADDED THAT ALL HONG KONG ASA'S NEGOTIATED TO DATE HAD BEEN DESIGNED WITH THE RELEVANT PROVISIONS OF THE JOINT DECLARATION IN MIND AND WERE CAPABLE OF REMAINING IN FORCE AFTER 1997.

"THE CONCLUSION OF THESE ASA'S WILL THEREFORE LAY THE FOUNDATION FOR A SMOOTH TRANSITION," HE SAID.

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WEDNESDAY, MAY 30, 1990

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MEASURES TAKEN TO IMPROVE SUPPLY OF THERAPEUTIC RADIOGRAPHERS

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A NUMBER OF MEASURES HAVE BEEN TAKEN TO IMPROVE THE RECRUITMENT OF THERAPEUTIC RADIOGRAPHERS FOR GOVERNMENT HOSPITALS AND TO REDUCE WASTAGE, THE SECRETARY FOR HEALTH AND WELFARE, THE HON ELIZABETH WONG, INFORMED THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL TODAY (WEDNESDAY).

IN A WRITTEN REPLY TO A QUESTION FROM THE HON RONALD CHOW, MRS WONG SAID THE SUPPLY OF DIAGNOSTIC RADIOGRAPHERS HAD BEEN STEADY IN RECENT YEARS AND NO SHORTAGE PROBLEM WAS ENVISAGED.

"HOWEVER, THE SUPPLY OF THERAPEUTIC RADIOGRAPHERS IS LESS SATISFACTORY," SHE SAID.

OUTLINING THE MEASURES TAKEN TO IMPROVE THE SUPPLY OF THERAPEUTIC RADIOGRAPHERS, MRS WONG SAID FROM JULY 19, 1989, THE PAY SCALE FOR STUDENT RADIOGRAPHERS (THERAPEUTIC) HAD BEEN REVISED FROM THE OLD TRAINING PAY SCALE (TPS) POINTS 5-7 TO POINTS 12-14 (I.E. THE NEW TPS POINTS 9-11).

"BASED ON THE RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE STANDING COMMISSION ON CIVIL SERVICE SALARIES AND CONDITIONS OF SERVICE, THE PAY SCALES FOR RADIOGRAPHERS I AND II HAVE ALSO BEEN IMPROVED WITH EFFECT FROM OCTOBER 1, 1989," SHE SAID.

"THE MINIMUM AND MAXIMUM SALARY POINTS FOR BOTH RADIOGRAPHERS I AND II HAVE BEEN RAISED BY ONE POINT, AND A NEW OMITTED POINT HAS BEEN INSERTED IN THE PAY SCALE OF RADIOGRAPHER I."

ALSO, SPECIAL ARRANGEMENTS HAD BEEN MADE WITH THE UNITED KINGDOM COLLEGE OF RADIOGRAPHERS (UKCR) TO REGISTER HOLDERS OF A PROFESSIONAL DIPLOMA IN DIAGNOSTIC RADIOLOGY (PDDR) FOR TRAINING IN RADIOTHERAPEUTIC TECHNIQUES WITH A VIEW TO QUALIFYING IN 18 MONTHS.

HOLDERS OF A PDDR AND FINAL YEAR STUDENTS ATTENDING THE PDDR COURSE AT THE HONG KONG POLYTECHNIC HAD ALSO BEEN INVITED TO JOIN THE THERAPEUTIC STREAM, SHE SAID.

MRS WONG POINTED OUT THAT TO WIDEN THE NET FOR QUALIFIED APPLICANTS, AGREEMENT HAD BEEN OBTAINED FROM THE UKCR TO MODIFY THE ENTRY REQUIREMENTS FOR STUDENT RADIOGRAPHERS (THERAPEUTIC).

"FOR INSTANCE, UKCR NOW ACCEPTS GRADES A TO E IN USE OF ENGLISH IN THE HONG KONG ADVANCED LEVEL EXAMINATION AS AN EQUIVALENT TO GCE O-LEVEL," SHE EXPLAINED.

ON TRAINING, THE HOSPITAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT HAD RECOMMENDED THE PRESENT HOSPITAL-BASED PROGRAMME FOR TRAINING THERAPEUTIC RADIOGRAPHERS BE TAKEN OVER BY A TERTIARY INSTITUTION.

"A PROPOSAL HAS BEEN PUT TO THE UNIVERSITY AND POLYTECHNIC GRANTS COMMITTEE," MRS WONG ADDED.

/THE SECRETARY

THE SECRETARY SAID RECRUITMENT PUBLICITY HAD BEEN STEPPED UP TO BOOST THE SUPPLY OF RADIOGRAPHERS.

APART FROM DISTRIBUTING INFORMATION LEAFLETS ON THE TRAINING AND CAREER PROSPECTS OF RADIOGRAPHERS TO ALL SECONDARY SCHOOLS, CAREER TALKS HAD ALSO BEEN ORGANISED FOR SECONDARY SCHOOL LEAVERS.

"THE HOSPITAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT WILL PARTICIPATE IN CAREER EXHIBITIONS ORGANISED BY THE LABOUR DEPARTMENT AND MORE RECRUITMENT ADVERTISEMENTS WILL APPEAR IN THE PRESS," SHE SAID.

MRS WONG ADDED THAT AUTHORITY HAD BEEN OBTAINED FOR RECRUITING RADIOGRAPHER II (THERAPEUTIC) FROM OVERSEAS.

"ARRANGEMENTS ARE BEING MADE TO ADVERTISE THE VACANCIES IN THE UNITED KINGDOM THROUGH LOCAL NEWSPAPERS AND PROFESSIONAL JOURNALS," SHE SAID.

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FISHERMEN WARNED TO AVOID DISPUTED AREAS

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MEASURES ARE ALREADY IN PLACE TO WARN HONG KONG FISHERMEN NOT TO ENTER AREAS OF TERRITORIAL DISPUTE OR WHERE THEIR SAFETY MAY BE ENDANGERED, THE ACTING SECRETARY FOR ECONOMIC SERVICES, THE HON RAFAEL HUI, TOLD THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL TODAY (WEDNESDAY).

THE AREAS INCLUDED 200 NAUTICAL MILES OFF THE SHORE OF VIETNAM WHICH THAT COUNTRY CLAIMED TO BE ITS "EXCLUSIVE ECONOMIC ZONE", MR HUI SAID IN A WRITTEN REPLY TO A QUESTION FROM THE HON LAU WONG-FAT.

TO ACHIEVE THE OBJECTIVE, MR HUI SAID THE AGRICULTURE AND FISHERIES DEPARTMENT HAD AN ON-GOING PROGRAMME FOR FISHERMEN WHICH INCLUDED:

- * NOTICES DISPLAYED AT ALL FISH MARKETING ORGANISATION WHOLESALE FISH MARKETS, LIAISON OFFICES, FISHERIES OFFICES AND FISHERMEN'S ORGANISATIONS PREMISES;
- * A BROADCAST ON "THE FISHERMEN'S HALF HOUR" WEEKLY PROGRAMME ON CHANNEL 5 OF RTHK; AND
- * MEETINGS, SEMINARS AND VISITS, PARTICULARLY FOR THOSE FISHERMEN WHO CONTEMPLATED FISHING IN WATERS WHICH MIGHT BE DANGEROUS.

MR HUI SAID THAT FISHERMEN WERE ALSO ENCOURAGED TO ADOPT MODERN NAVIGATIONAL AIDS SUCH AS SATELLITE NAVIGATORS, SO THAT THEY WOULD BE LESS LIKELY TO ENTER BY MISTAKE INTO AREAS OF DISPUTE OR DANGER.

"MOREOVER, WE REGULARLY CONDUCT TRAINING COURSES ON NAVIGATION AND THE USE OF NAVIGATIONAL AIDS, AND MAKE AVAILABLE LOW-INTEREST LOANS TO NEEDY FISHERMEN FOR THE INSTALLATION OF SUCH AIDS," HE ADDED.

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DEVELOPMENTS OVER MFN RENEWAL BEING MONITORED CLOSELY

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THE ADMINISTRATION IS MONITORING CLOSELY DEVELOPMENTS CONCERNING THE UNITED STATES' RENEWAL OF MOST FAVOURED NATION (MFN) TRADING STATUS FOR CHINA AND WILL CONTINUE TO UNDERTAKE SUCH LOBBYING ACTIVITIES AS ARE NECESSARY, THE FINANCIAL SECRETARY, THE HON SIR PIERS JACOBS, TOLD THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL TODAY (WEDNESDAY).

IN A WRITTEN REPLY TO A QUESTION FROM THE HON POON CHI-FAI, SIR PIERS POINTED OUT THAT, AS MEMBERS WERE AWARE, PRESIDENT BUSH HAD ANNOUNCED ON MAY 24 HIS DECISION TO EXTEND MFN STATUS TO CHINA FOR ANOTHER YEAR.

"SOME SENATORS AND CONGRESSMEN HAVE CRITICISED THIS DECISION AND MAY SEEK TO OVERTURN IT.

"PRESENT INDICATIONS ARE THAT THERE IS INSUFFICIENT SUPPORT IN CONGRESS FOR SUCH A MOVE TO SUCCEED.

"NEVERTHELESS, THERE REMAINS A RISK, SMALL THOUGH IT MAY BE, OF THE U.S. WITHDRAWING MFN TREATMENT FOR CHINA," SIR PIERS SAID.

THE FINANCIAL SECRETARY SAID THE ADMINISTRATION ESTIMATED THAT, IN THE NOW UNLIKELY EVENT OF CHINA'S MFN STATUS BEING WITHDRAWN, HONG KONG MIGHT LOSE HK\$55-78 BILLION IN TRADE, HK\$5-7 BILLION IN INCOME AND OVER 20,000 JOBS AS A DIRECT RESULT.

"THE LONG-TERM EFFECTS ARE MUCH MORE DIFFICULT TO QUANTIFY AND CANNOT, IN ANY CASE, BE ASSESSED ON A ONE-OFF BASIS.

"MUCH WOULD DEPEND ON HOW SUCCESSFULLY HONG KONG'S BUSINESS COMMUNITY ADJUSTS TO THE SITUATION," HE SAID.

SIR PIERS SAID WITHDRAWAL BY THE U.S. OF MFN TREATMENT FOR CHINA WOULD BE A MAJOR CHANGE TO HONG KONG'S EXISTING BUSINESS ENVIRONMENT.

"THE PROCESS OF ADJUSTING TO SUCH A MAJOR CHANGE WOULD INEVITABLY BE PAINFUL," HE SAID.

SIR PIERS SAID THE ADMINISTRATION WAS ACTIVELY CONSIDERING, ON A CONTINGENCY BASIS, WAYS OF FACILITATING THAT ADJUSTMENT.

THESE WAYS MIGHT INCLUDE FURTHER STRENGTHENING OF THE GOVERNMENT'S ALREADY CONSIDERABLE EFFORTS IN HELPING HONG KONG BUSINESSMEN TO OPEN UP NEW OR ALTERNATIVE MARKETS, AND REMOVING ANY CONSTRAINTS THAT MIGHT EXIST WITHIN THE SYSTEM ON HONG KONG MANUFACTURERS' ABILITY TO UNDERTAKE MORE OF THEIR PRODUCTION PROCESSES IN HONG KONG.

"OBVIOUSLY, THE GOVERNMENT COULD NOT PROVIDE A SHIELD AGAINST THE REALITIES OF CHANGES IN THE POLITICAL AND ECONOMIC ENVIRONMENT, WHICH ARE PART OF THE RISKS FACING BUSINESS ENTERPRISES EVERYWHERE; NOR DO WE WISH TO INTERFERE IN COMMERCIAL DECISIONS REACHED IN THE PRIVATE SECTOR.

"BUT, AS I STATED IN THIS COUNCIL ON MAY 23, 1990 IN REPLY TO A QUESTION FROM MR DAVID LI, THE GOVERNMENT WILL INTERVENE IN AN APPROPRIATE MANNER WHEN IT IS CLEARLY IN THE PUBLIC INTEREST TO DO SO," SIR PIERS SAID.

POLICE COMPLAINTS COMMITTEE'S REPORT FOR 1989

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THE POLICE COMPLAINTS COMMITTEE HAS RELEASED ITS ANNUAL REPORT FOR 1989. IT WAS SET UP IN EARLY 1986 TO TAKE OVER THE WORK PREVIOUSLY UNDERTAKEN BY THE FORMER UMELCO POLICE GROUP. THE COMMITTEE OVERSEES THE HANDLING BY THE POLICE OF COMPLAINTS BY THE PUBLIC.

TABLING THE REPORT IN THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL TODAY (WEDNESDAY) IN HIS CAPACITY AS CHAIRMAN OF THE POLICE COMPLAINTS COMMITTEE, DR THE HON DANIEL TSE SAID THAT DURING THE YEAR 1989, THE COMMITTEE HAD REVIEWED AND ENDORSED 2,675 COMPLAINT CASES, EMBRACING 4,026 ALLEGATIONS, PROCESSED BY THE COMPLAINTS AGAINST THE POLICE OFFICE (CAPO) OF THE ROYAL HONG KONG POLICE FORCE. WITH THE SUPPORT OF AN INDEPENDENT SECRETARIAT, DR TSE POINTED OUT THAT THE COMMITTEE HAD BEEN ABLE TO VET IN DETAIL EACH AND EVERY COMPLAINT CASE.

THE REPORT STATED THAT THE LARGEST SINGLE SUBJECT OF COMPLAINT WAS ABOUT ASSAULT (30 PER CENT OF THE TOTAL NUMBER OF ALLEGATIONS). THIS WAS FOLLOWED BY OVERBEARING, IMPOLITE CONDUCT OR ABUSIVE LANGUAGE OF POLICE OFFICERS (25.4 PER CENT), NEGLECT OF DUTY OR IMPROPER ACTION (19 PER CENT), UNNECESSARY USE OF AUTHORITY (13.9 PER CENT) AND FABRICATION OF EVIDENCE (6.5 PER CENT).

IN ADDITION, THE REPORT STATED THAT AS A RESULT OF INVESTIGATION INTO COMPLAINTS MONITORED BY THE COMMITTEE, APPROPRIATE LEGAL PROCEEDINGS AND DISCIPLINARY OR INTERNAL ACTIONS HAD BEEN TAKEN AND ADVICES GIVEN AGAINST 602 POLICE OFFICERS DURING 1989.

THE REPORT ALSO NOTED THAT THE DECLINING TREND OF COMPLAINTS WHICH BEGAN IN APRIL 1987 HAD STABILISED TOWARDS THE THIRD QUARTER OF 1989. A TOTAL OF 3,234 COMPLAINT CASES WERE REGISTERED BY CAPO IN 1989, REPRESENTING A 0.5 PER CENT INCREASE OVER THE 3,219 CASES REGISTERED IN 1988. NEVERTHELESS, DR TSE NOTED THAT THE 1989 FIGURE STILL REPRESENTED A 16.4 PER CENT DECREASE OVER THE FIGURE OF 3,870 FOR 1987. AS IN PREVIOUS YEARS, THE MAJORITY OF COMPLAINT CASES (91.8 PER CENT) WERE MADE DIRECT TO THE POLICE FORCE.

THE REPORT FURTHER SHOWED THE COMMITTEE'S CONCERN OVER THE HIGHER INCIDENCE OF ASSAULT CASES RECEIVED IN 1989 (19.1 PER CENT) THAN FOR 1988. THE COMMITTEE HAD STUDIED THE TREND RELATING TO ALLEGATIONS OF ASSAULT OVER THE PAST TWO YEARS WITH THE ASSISTANCE OF CAPO. THE STUDY INDICATED SOME CORRELATION BETWEEN THE NUMBER OF ALLEGATIONS OF ASSAULT AND THE NUMBER OF CRIMES REPORTED TOGETHER WITH CONSEQUENTIAL CRIME ARRESTS. THE MATTER HAD BEEN BROUGHT TO THE ATTENTION OF FORMATION COMMANDERS OF POLICE DISTRICTS BY CAPO FOR APPROPRIATE ACTION. THE SITUATION WAS BEING CLOSELY MONITORED BY THE COMMITTEE.

HOWEVER, THE REPORT EMPHASISED THAT THE NUMBER OF PUBLIC COMPLAINTS AND VARIOUS FORMS OF LEGAL AND DISCIPLINARY OR INTERNAL ACTIONS TAKEN AND ADVICES GIVEN AGAINST POLICE OFFICERS SHOULD BE SEEN IN THE LIGHT OF THE DIFFICULT FRONT-LINE NATURE OF POLICE WORK. THEY SHOULD ALSO BE INTERPRETED IN THE CONTEXT OF 3.07 MILLION POTENTIAL POLICE - PUBLIC CONFRONTATION SITUATIONS DURING THE YEAR, INCLUDING 1.56 MILLION PERSONS STOPPED AND CHECKED THROUGH THE POLICE OPERATIONAL NOMINAL INDEX COMPUTER SYSTEM (PONICS) AND 1.51 MILLION TRAFFIC SUMMONSES AND TICKETS ISSUED.

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IN REVIEWING THE COMPLAINT CASES, THE COMMITTEE HAD PROPOSED A NUMBER OF REVIEWS OF, AND CHANGES TO, POLICE PRACTICES, PROCEDURES AND INSTRUCTIONS WITH A VIEW TO IMPROVING UPON THE OVERALL EFFECTIVENESS OF THE COMPLAINTS SYSTEM AND ASSISTING THE COMMISSIONER OF POLICE IN MINIMISING PUBLIC COMPLAINTS AGAINST THE POLICE. SOME OF THE STUDIES AND CHANGES INITIATED BY THE COMMITTEE INCLUDED:

- (A) A REVIEW OF THE USE OF POLICE DOGS IN HIGH RISE PATROL IN HOUSING ESTATES;
- (B) AN EXAMINATION OF THE EXISTING PRACTICE RELATING TO THE PROVISION OF REFRESHMENT TO PRISONERS;
- (C) A REVIEW OF THE PROCEDURES GOVERNING THE COURT APPEARANCE OF A DEFENDANT;
- (D) A REVIEW OF THE RELEVANT POLICE GENERAL ORDERS ON RECORDING THE TIME OF AN ARREST;
- (E) THE ISSUE OF INSTRUCTIONS TO BRIEF POLICE OFFICERS THAT IT WOULD NOT BE APPROPRIATE FOR THE POLICE TO GIVE ADVICE CONCERNING THE RIGHT OR LIABILITIES OF PARTIES INVOLVED IN A CIVIL DISPUTE;
- (F) THE ISSUE OF A FORCE-WIDE NOTIFICATION TO REMIND POLICE OFFICERS THAT NO STATEMENTS ONCE TAKEN SHOULD EVER BE DESTROYED; AND
- (G) THE ISSUE OF A REMINDER TO POLICE OFFICERS ON THE IMPORTANCE OF THE ACCURACY OF INFORMATION SWORN BEFORE MAGISTRATES IN RELATION TO SEARCH AND ARREST WARRANTS.

DR TSE ALSO REPORTED THAT THE INFORMAL RESOLUTION SCHEME TO PROCESS CERTAIN MINOR COMPLAINTS WAS INTRODUCED IN 1989 ON A TRIAL BASIS FOR SIX MONTHS. THE SCHEME IS DESIGNED TO RESOLVE QUICKLY, THROUGH PERSONAL DISCUSSION, COMPLAINTS ARISING AS A RESULT OF A FAULT IN PROCEDURE OR POLICY, A GENUINE MISUNDERSTANDING OR CIRCUMSTANCES OUTSIDE THE CONTROL OF THE POLICE OFFICER CONCERNED. THE SCHEME, IF SUCCESSFUL, WILL ENABLE MORE RESOURCES TO BE DEVOTED TO MORE SERIOUS COMPLAINTS. FOLLOWING A REVIEW OF THE TRIAL PERIOD, THE COMMITTEE HAS ENDSORSED THE EXTENSION OF THE SCHEME WITH SOME MINOR MODIFICATIONS FOR A FURTHER PERIOD OF SIX MONTHS.

DURING THE YEAR, A PAMPHLET ON THE WORK OF THE POLICE COMPLAINTS COMMITTEE HAS BEEN PUBLISHED TO ASSIST THE PUBLIC IN BETTER UNDERSTANDING OF THE COMPLAINTS MACHINERY AND THE INDEPENDENT ROLE OF THE COMMITTEE.

THE POLICE COMPLAINTS COMMITTEE IS AN INDEPENDENT MONITORING GROUP APPOINTED BY THE GOVERNOR. IN 1989, THE COMMITTEE COMPRISED A CHAIRMAN AND TWO VICE-CHAIRMEN, ALL DRAWN FROM OMELCO AND EIGHT MEMBERS, BEING ACTIVE JUSTICES OF THE PEACE, WITH THE ATTORNEY GENERAL AND THE COMMISSIONER FOR ADMINISTRATIVE COMPLAINTS BEING THE TWO EX-OFFICIO REPRESENTATIVES ON THE COMMITTEE.

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WEDNESDAY, MAY 30, 1990

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PRIVATE BILL PASSED

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A PRIVATE BILL, THE DAO HENG BANK LIMITED BILL 1990, WAS PASSED IN THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL TODAY (WEDNESDAY).

THE BILL HAD BEEN INTRODUCED BY THE HON DAVID LI.

TWO OTHER BILLS, THE COMPANIES (AMENDMENT) (NO. 4) BILL 1990 AND THE COMPANIES (AMENDMENT) (NO. 5) BILL 1990, WERE INTRODUCED FOR FIRST AND SECOND READINGS.

DEBATES ON BOTH THESE BILLS WERE ADJOURNED.

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WEDNESDAY, MAY 30, 1990

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THE FOLLOWING IS A JOINT STATEMENT ISSUED BY THE GUANGDONG AND HONG KONG GOVERNMENTS:

"IN RESPONSE TO THE HONG KONG SIDE'S SUGGESTION, BORDER LIAISON OFFICIALS FROM BOTH HONG KONG AND GUANGDONG HELD A MEETING IN SHENZHEN ON 30 MAY ABOUT THE CASE OF THE HONG KONG SMUGGLING VESSEL WHICH HAPPENED ON 3 MAY.

"AT THE MEETING, BOTH SIDES GAVE THEIR OWN ACCOUNT OF THE SEQUENCE OF EVENTS AND HELD CONSULTATIONS ON HOW TO RESOLVE THE CASE. THE GUANGDONG SIDE AGREED TO RELEASE THE ARRESTED MEN AND THE BOATS AND STATED THAT THE SMUGGLED CARS HAD BEEN CONFISCATED IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE RELEVANT CHINESE LAWS.

"AT THE MEETING BOTH SIDES EXCHANGED VIEWS ON IMPROVING COOPERATION AND MEASURES TO CURB SMUGGLING BETWEEN GUANGDONG AND HONG KONG. BOTH SIDES STRESSED THAT ON THE BASIS OF PREVIOUS FRIENDLY COOPERATION, FURTHER LIAISON WOULD HELP TO CURB SMUGGLING ACTIVITIES AND CONTRIBUTE TO THE PEACE AND GOOD ORDER OF THE HONG KONG/GUANGDONG BORDER."

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NEW BANK HEADQUARTERS A SYMBOL OF COMMITMENT

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THE IMPRESSIVE NEW HEADQUARTERS OF THE STANDARD CHARTERED BANK IS A SYMBOL OF THE BANK'S CONTINUING INVOLVEMENT IN AND COMMITMENT TO HONG KONG, THE GOVERNOR, SIR DAVID WILSON, SAID TODAY (WEDNESDAY).

SPEAKING AT THE OPENING OF THE NEW STANDARD CHARTERED BANK BUILDING, SIR DAVID SAID: "SO EQUALLY IS THE MAJOR INVESTMENT THE BANK HAS MADE IN RENOVATING THE WHOLE OF ITS BRANCH NETWORK IN HONG KONG AND PROVIDING, IN THIS NEW BUILDING, ONE OF THE TERRITORY'S LARGEST DEALING ROOMS."

THE GOVERNOR SAID THE STANDARD CHARTERED BANK HAD, LIKE HONG KONG ITSELF, GROWN AND PROSPERED SINCE ITS ESTABLISHMENT IN THE TERRITORY OVER 130 YEARS AGO.

"INDEED HONG KONG NOW PROVIDES ONE OF THE BANK'S MAIN WORLDWIDE PROFIT CENTRES.

"FOR US, STANDARD CHARTERED AS ONE OF OUR TWO NOTE-ISSUING BANKS WITH A NETWORK OF OVER 100 BRANCHES, IS AN IMPORTANT PART OF OUR ECONOMY," HE SAID.

THE GOVERNOR POINTED OUT THAT STANDARD CHARTERED BANK HAD SHARED IN HONG KONG'S ECONOMIC SUCCESSES -- AND OUR PERIODIC TIMES OF DIFFICULTY -- AND HAD PLAYED ITS PART OVER THE YEARS IN MAINTAINING ALL IMPORTANT STABILITY IN THE TERRITORY'S FINANCIAL SYSTEM.

/"THE BANK'S

"THE BANK'S PARTICIPATION IN THE LIFE BOAT FACILITY PROVIDED FOR THE FUTURES EXCHANGE IN 1987 IS A GOOD EXAMPLE OF THIS," HE SAID, ADDING THAT THE BANK'S SUCCESSIVE GENERAL MANAGERS HAD ALSO BEEN ACTIVE IN COMMUNITY AND PUBLIC AFFAIRS.

SIR DAVID SAID THE PRESENCE IN HONG KONG OF BANKS OF INTERNATIONAL STANDING AND WORLDWIDE BUSINESS OPERATIONS WAS A VITAL PART OF OUR RESOLVE TO MAINTAIN THE TERRITORY'S ROLE AS A LEADING CENTRE OF INTERNATIONAL FINANCE AND TRADE; A ROLE THAT THE JOINT DECLARATION AND THE BASIC LAW GUARANTEED WOULD CONTINUE BEYOND THE TRANSFER OF SOVEREIGNTY IN SEVEN YEARS' TIME.

"WE THEREFORE LOOK FORWARD TO STANDARD CHARTERED CONTINUING TO PLAY A MAJOR ROLE IN HONG KONG'S FINANCIAL SYSTEM THROUGH THE 1990'S AND ON INTO THE 21ST CENTURY, WORKING HARD FOR HONG KONG AS IT HAS FOR THE PAST 130 YEARS," HE SAID.

THE GOVERNOR CONGRATULATED THE BANK ON ITS LONG AND SUCCESSFUL PARTNERSHIP WITH HONG KONG AND WISHED IT, AND ALL WHO WOULD WORK IN THE NEW HEADQUARTERS, A BRIGHT AND PROSPEROUS FUTURE.

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IMF DELEGATION TO VISIT HK

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A STAFF TEAM FROM THE INTERNATIONAL MONETARY FUND WILL ARRIVE THIS EVENING FOR A NINE-DAY FACT-FINDING VISIT, A GOVERNMENT SPOKESMAN SAID TODAY (WEDNESDAY).

"THE TEAM, COMPRISING A DIVISION CHIEF AND THREE ECONOMISTS OF THE FUND, WILL COLLECT STATISTICAL INFORMATION AND BACKGROUND MATERIAL ON HONG KONG'S MONETARY AND FINANCIAL SYSTEMS," THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

"THE VISIT IS PART OF THE FUND'S CURRENT EXERCISE TO LEARN MORE ABOUT THE NEWLY INDUSTRIALISED ECONOMIES IN THE REGION," HE ADDED.

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SCHEME ON LABOUR IMPORT EXTENDED

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THE GOVERNMENT ANNOUNCED TODAY (WEDNESDAY) THAT THE SCHEME ON THE IMPORTATION OF LABOUR WOULD BE EXTENDED IN VIEW OF THE PERSISTENCE OF A TIGHT LABOUR MARKET AND AN EXPECTED SLOW GROWTH IN THE DOMESTIC SUPPLY OF LABOUR.

ANNOUNCING THE DECISION AT A PRESS CONFERENCE, THE SECRETARY FOR EDUCATION AND MANPOWER, MR K. Y. YEUNG, SAID THAT THE CURRENT SCHEME FOR IMPORTING TECHNICIANS, CRAFTSMEN AND SUPERVISORS WOULD CONTINUE WITH A NEW QUOTA OF 2,700 WORKERS.

IN ADDITION, A SCHEME FOR IMPORTING EXPERIENCED OPERATIVES WOULD BE ESTABLISHED, SUBJECT TO A QUOTA OF 10,000 WORKERS.

A SEPARATE SCHEME FOR THE IMPORTATION INITIALLY OF 2,000 CONSTRUCTION WORKERS WOULD ALSO BE ESTABLISHED TO FACILITATE THE NEW AIRPORT AND AIRPORT-RELATED PROJECTS.

MR YEUNG SAID THIS LIMITED IMPORTATION OF SKILLED WORKERS AND EXPERIENCED OPERATIVES WOULD BENEFIT THE LOCAL ECONOMY AND THE COMMUNITY AS A WHOLE BY RELIEVING LABOUR SHORTFALLS IN CRITICAL AREAS AND ALSO BY COMPLEMENTING CAPITAL INVESTMENT.

"THERE WILL BE NO LARGE SCALE IMPORTATION OF UNSKILLED LABOUR," HE SAID.

HE ADDED THAT RELAXATION OF THE SCHEME DID NOT MEAN CHEAP LABOUR, AND THAT IN ORDER TO PROTECT THE INTEREST OF LOCAL WORKERS, EMPLOYERS WOULD BE REQUIRED TO PAY FAIR WAGES.

ADEQUATE ENFORCEMENT ARRANGEMENTS WOULD BE MADE TO ENSURE THAT EMPLOYERS COMPLY WITH THE CONDITIONS FOR BRINGING IN FOREIGN WORKERS, HE SAID.

ON THE DECISION TO CONTINUE THE SCHEME FOR IMPORTING TECHNICIANS, CRAFTSMEN AND SUPERVISORS, MR YEUNG SAID THAT ALTHOUGH THE PRESENT SCHEME HAD PROVIDED SOME RELIEF TO THOSE SECTORS SUFFERING FROM ACUTE SHORTAGES, THE EXCESS DEMAND HAD PERSISTED AND FURTHER RELIEF WAS NECESSARY.

"BUT IN ORDER TO PROTECT THE INTERESTS OF LOCAL WORKERS AND BECAUSE ONLY ABOUT 2,700 WORKERS HAVE BEEN APPROVED UNDER THE CURRENT SCHEME, THE NEW QUOTA SHOULD BE 2,700 WORKERS."

TURNING TO THE SCHEMES FOR IMPORTING EXPERIENCED OPERATIVES, MR YEUNG SAID AN EXPERIENCED OPERATIVE WAS DEFINED AS A PERSON WHO WAS ABLE TO START WORK WITHOUT TRAINING IN A HONG KONG-BASED VOCATIONAL TRAINING INSTITUTION.

"AT THE OPERATIVE LEVEL, THIS WOULD GENERALLY MEAN AT LEAST ONE YEAR'S EXPERIENCE IN THE RELEVANT JOB."

HE SAID THAT ACCORDING TO LATEST STATISTICS, THE VACANCY RATIO BETWEEN TECHNICIANS/CRAFTSMEN AND OPERATIVES WAS 1:3.7. GIVEN THE NEW QUOTA OF 2,700 WORKERS FOR TECHNICIANS/CRAFTSMEN, THE QUOTA FOR OPERATIVES WOULD BE 10,000 WORKERS.

FOR THE PURPOSE OF QUOTA ALLOCATION, A LIST OF INDUSTRIES RANKED IN ORDER OF PRIORITY ON THE BASIS OF VACANCY RATES WOULD BE PUBLISHED TOGETHER WITH THE MEDIAN WAGE LEVEL FOR OPERATIVES IN EACH INDUSTRY.

ONLY THOSE APPLICATIONS OFFERING WAGES AT OR ABOVE THE MEDIAN LEVEL WOULD BE CONSIDERED.

IT IS ENVISAGED THAT THOSE INDUSTRIES THAT HAVE BEEN SUFFERING FROM THE HIGHEST VACANCY RATES AND SUSTAINING THE HIGHEST GROWTH RATE IN WAGES WOULD BE GIVEN A HIGHER PRIORITY.

HALF OF THE QUOTA WOULD PROBABLY GO TO THE CLOTHING INDUSTRY, THE WHOLESALE, RETAIL AND IMPORT/EXPORT TRADES, AND TO HOTEL, CATERING AND TOURIST BUSINESSES, LARGELY BECAUSE OF THEIR EMPLOYMENT SIZE, THEIR RELATIVELY HIGH VACANCY RATES, AND THE CONCENTRATION OF WORKERS AT THE OPERATIVE LEVEL IN THEIR EMPLOYMENT HIERARCHY.

MR YEUNG SAID THAT THE EMPLOYMENT OF FISHERMEN FROM CHINA ON DUALY-LICENSED HONG KONG-BASED FISHING VESSELS WOULD BE SUBSUMED GRADUALLY UNDER THE SCHEME FOR IMPORTING EXPERIENCED OPERATIVES.

"THIS WOULD BE DONE BY REFUSING TO REPLACE ANY OF THE PRESENT 791 SUCH WORKERS AS THEY RETIRE, THUS GRADUALLY REDUCING THE NUMBER, AND INVITING THE FISHING INDUSTRY TO APPLY UNDER THE SCHEME FOR EXPERIENCED OPERATIVES."

ON THE NEW SCHEME FOR IMPORTING LABOUR FOR AIRPORT AND AIRPORT-RELATED PROJECTS, MR YEUNG SAID THE UNDERLYING RATIONALE FOR HAVING A SEPARATE SCHEME LAY IN THE TIME SPAN WITHIN WHICH THESE PROJECTS HAVE TO BE COMPLETED, THE NEED TO KEEP COSTS WITHIN REASONABLE LEVELS, AND THE NEED TO GIVE CONTRACTORS AN ASSURANCE THAT THE SUPPLY OF LABOUR WOULD BE ADEQUATE.

MR YEUNG SAID THE SECRETARY FOR ECONOMIC SERVICES AND THE SECRETARY FOR WORKS HAD EXAMINED THESE CONTRACT-RELATED AND TASK-SPECIFIC REQUIREMENTS FOR LABOUR, AND HAD ADVISED THAT A SEPARATE QUOTA OF INITIALLY 2,000 BE ESTABLISHED.

FOR THESE CONSTRUCTION WORKERS, THE SAME GROUND RULES AS THOSE OF THE SCHEME FOR IMPORTING TECHNICIANS/CRAFTSMEN AND EXPERIENCED OPERATIVES WOULD APPLY, SUBJECT TO THERE BEING NO SPECIFICATIONS AS TO SKILLS.

ONE ESSENTIAL GROUND RULE IS THAT THE IMMIGRATION CONTROLS MUST BE BUILT AROUND A STANDARD CONTRACT OF EMPLOYMENT OF NOT MORE THAN TWO YEARS.

TO MINIMISE SOCIAL COSTS, THE EMPLOYER WOULD BE REQUIRED TO PROVIDE PASSAGES AND HOUSING, AND TO MEET THE COST OF MEDICAL TREATMENT.

TO PROTECT THE INTERESTS OF LOCAL WORKERS, PAYROLL WOULD HAVE TO BE THE SAME AS THAT OFFERED TO LOCALLY DOMICILED WORKERS. ACCEPTABLE WAGES WOULD BE REPRESENTED BY PUBLISHED MEDIAN WAGES.

"IN THE EVENT OF REDUNDANCIES, IMPORTED WORKERS WOULD BE THE FIRST TO GO," MR YEUNG SAID.

"TO ENSURE THAT IMPORTED LABOUR COMPLEMENTS CAPITAL INVESTMENT, IMPORTED WORKERS AT THE OPERATIVE LEVEL MUST BE EXPERIENCED."

SINCE THE GRANTING OF PERMISSION TO IMPORT LABOUR IS DESIGNED TO ACT AS AN ADDED STIMULANT TO INVESTMENT IN LABOUR PRODUCTIVITY, THE PERMISSION SHOULD BE LIMITED TO A MAXIMUM OF TWO YEARS.

/HOWEVER, IT

HOWEVER, IT MIGHT BE NECESSARY TO REOPEN THE SCHEME FOR APPLICATION AT THE END OF TWO YEARS. IN THIS CASE, THE FIRM'S INVESTMENT IN INDUSTRIAL EFFICIENCY AND IN LABOUR PRODUCTIVITY WOULD BE IMPORTANT FACTORS IN DECIDING WHETHER IT MAY IMPORT FOREIGN LABOUR FOR A FURTHER TWO YEAR PERIOD, MR YEUNG SAID.

HE ADDED THAT AN EXAMINATION OF THE WAY THE CURRENT SCHEME FOR TECHNICIANS/CRAFTSMEN HAD BEEN ADMINISTERED SUGGESTED THAT CERTAIN IMPROVEMENTS SHOULD BE MADE IN BOTH ADMISSION CRITERIA AND PROCEDURE.

HE NOTED THAT AGAINST A QUOTA OF 3,000 UNDER THE CURRENT SCHEME, ONLY 2,718 HAD BEEN APPROVED AND ONLY 1,809 VISAS HAD BEEN ISSUED. THE SOMEWHAT SLOW TAKE-UP WAS DUE TO A NUMBER OF FACTORS. ONE DIFFICULTY COULD BE ATTRIBUTED TO THE ABSENCE OF GUIDANCE FOR PROSPECTIVE EMPLOYERS OVER THE GOING WAGE, AND THIS HAD OFTEN LED TO ARGUMENT BETWEEN PROSPECTIVE EMPLOYERS AND THE GOVERNMENT.

ANOTHER DIFFICULTY COULD BE TRACED TO THE REQUIREMENT IN THE CURRENT SCHEME THAT THE PROSPECTIVE EMPLOYER MUST NOT ALLOW MORE THAN 20 PER CENT OF JOBS OF THE SAME SKILL IN HIS BUSINESS TO BE FILLED BY IMPORTED WORKERS.

"THIS REQUIREMENT HAD RESULTED IN THE REJECTION OF A CONSIDERABLE NUMBER OF APPLICATIONS THAT OTHERWISE WOULD HAVE BEEN ACCEPTED."

TO TACKLE THESE PROBLEMS, MR YEUNG SAID, MEDIAN WAGES WOULD BE PUBLISHED AND BE ACCEPTED AS REPRESENTING THE GOING WAGES FOR IMPORTED LABOUR, AND THE 20 PER CENT CEILING FOR IMPORTED WORKERS WOULD BE REMOVED.

THESE CHANGES WOULD BE APPLIED TO ALL THE THREE SCHEMES OF IMPORTATION OF LABOUR, MR YEUNG SAID.

HE ALSO SAID THE REVIEW OF POLICY TO ALLOW FURTHER LEGAL IMPORTATION OF LABOUR DID NOT MEAN THAT GOVERNMENT WOULD RELAX ITS ON-GOING POLICY TO ARREST AND REPATRIATE ILLEGAL IMMIGRANTS WHO SOUGHT TO ENTER HONG KONG, OR ILLEGAL IMMIGRANTS WHO MIGHT CURRENTLY BE HERE.

THE GOVERNMENT STRONGLY REFUTES ANY NOTION OF AN AMNESTY FOR ILLEGAL IMMIGRANTS. THERE WILL BE NO AMNESTY.

LONGER PAID ANNUAL LEAVE FOR WORKERS PROPOSED
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THE GOVERNMENT PROPOSES TO INCREASE AN EMPLOYEE'S ENTITLEMENT TO PAID ANNUAL LEAVE OVER A PERIOD OF FIVE YEARS FROM SEVEN TO 14 DAYS DEPENDING ON THE LENGTH OF SERVICE.

UPON ENACTMENT OF A BILL SOON TO BE INTRODUCED TO THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL, AN EMPLOYEE WITH THREE YEARS' SERVICE WOULD BE ENTITLED TO EIGHT DAYS' PAID ANNUAL LEAVE, AN EMPLOYEE WITH FOUR YEARS WOULD BE ENTITLED TO NINE DAYS AND THOSE WITH FIVE YEARS OR LONGER WOULD GET 10 DAYS.

THE MAXIMUM AMOUNT OF PAID ANNUAL LEAVE FOR EMPLOYEES WITH FIVE YEARS' SERVICE OR LONGER WOULD BE INCREASED FROM 10 TO 14 DAYS OVER A PERIOD OF FIVE YEARS.

THE FOLLOWING TABLE ILLUSTRATES THE PHASED IMPLEMENTATION OF THE PROPOSED INCREASE IN PAID ANNUAL LEAVE:

YEARS OF SERVICE OF EMPLOYEE -----	NUMBER OF DAYS OF PAID ANNUAL LEAVE -----				
	YEAR 1 ----- (1990)*	YEAR 2 ----- (1991)*	YEAR 3 ----- (1992)*	YEAR 4 ----- (1993)*	YEAR 5 ----- (1994)*
1	7	7	7	7	7
2	7	7	7	7	7
3	8	8	8	8	8
4	9	9	9	9	9
5	10	10	10	10	10
6	10	11	11	11	11
7	10	11	12	12	12
8	10	11	12	13	13
9 OR ABOVE	10	11	12	13	14

* THE CALENDER YEAR (FOR 1990, THE PART OF THE YEAR AFTER ENACTMENT) IN WHICH THE EMPLOYEE COMPLETES THE LENGTH OF SERVICE SPECIFIED IN THE LEFT-HAND COLUMN.

UNDER THE EXISTING PROVISIONS OF THE EMPLOYMENT ORDINANCE, AT LEAST FOUR OF THE SEVEN DAYS' PAID ANNUAL LEAVE MUST BE TAKEN CONSECUTIVELY.

IN LINE WITH THE PRINCIPLE THAT A MAJOR PORTION OF THE LEAVE SHOULD BE ENJOYED WITHOUT INTERRUPTION, AND IN ORDER TO MAKE LEAVE-TAKING MORE FLEXIBLE, IT IS PROPOSED THAT WHERE THE LEAVE ENTITLEMENT DOES NOT EXCEED 10 DAYS, UP TO THREE DAYS MAY BE GRANTED SEPARATELY AT THE EMPLOYEE'S REQUEST.

ALSO, WHERE THE LEAVE ENTITLEMENT EXCEEDS 10 DAYS, THE NUMBER OF DAYS IN EXCESS OF SEVEN DAYS MAY BE GRANTED SEPARATELY AT THE EMPLOYEE'S REQUEST.

WITH THE INCREASE IN PAID ANNUAL LEAVE, THE EMPLOYEE WOULD BE PERMITTED TO ACCEPT PAYMENT IN LIEU OF THE PART OF HIS LEAVE ENTITLEMENT WHICH EXCEEDED 10 DAYS IN ORDER TO PROVIDE FLEXIBILITY FOR BOTH THE EMPLOYEE AND THE EMPLOYER.

AS A SAFEGUARD AGAINST POSSIBLE ABUSE OF THIS PROVISION, IT IS PROPOSED TO MAKE IT AN OFFENCE FOR AN EMPLOYER TO INCLUDE IN AN EMPLOYMENT CONTRACT ANY CLAUSE WHICH WOULD COMMIT THE EMPLOYEE CONCERNED TO FOREGO ALL OR ANY OF HIS ANNUAL LEAVE ENTITLMENT.

THE PROPOSED PENALTY FOR THIS OFFENCE WOULD BE A MAXIMUM FINE OF \$10,000.

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BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES IN ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

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THE DIRECTOR OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION, DR STUART REED, SAID TODAY (WEDNESDAY) HE ESTIMATED THAT THERE WILL BE A DEMAND FOR GOODS AND SERVICES EXCEEDING \$50 BILLION TO TACKLE ENVIRONMENTAL PROBLEMS IN THE COMING DECADE.

THE BUSINESS SECTOR HAD, THEREFORE, A VERY IMPORTANT PART TO PLAY AND CONTRIBUTION TO MAKE TO SOLVING ENVIRONMENTAL PROBLEMS IN HONG KONG.

DR REED WAS SPEAKING AT THE INSTITUTE FOR INTERNATIONAL RESEARCH CONFERENCE.

HE SAID THE COMMUNITY'S PROBLEMS AND THE PROGRAMMES THAT THE GOVERNMENT HAD DEVELOPED TO TACKLE ENVIRONMENTAL PROBLEMS PRESENTED BOTH UPSIDE AND DOWNSIDE BUSINESS POTENTIAL FOR PROVIDERS OF SERVICES AND EQUIPMENT AND INVESTMENT.

"THE GOVERNMENT PLANS TO INVEST SOMETHING LIKE \$20 BILLION OVER THE COMING DECADE ON SEWERAGE INFRASTRUCTURE AND COLLECTION, TREATMENT AND DISPOSAL FACILITIES FOR MUNICIPAL WASTES.

"THERE WILL ALSO BE PROGRESSIVE ENFORCEMENT OF POLLUTION CONTROL LEGISLATION WHICH WILL GIVE RISE TO DEMAND FOR CONTROL EQUIPMENT AND CHEMICALS AS WELL AS SERVICES; SUCH AS MAINTENANCE CONTRACTS.

"OTHER OPPORTUNITIES WILL ARISE THROUGH THE GENERAL PROMOTION OF ENVIRONMENTAL AWARENESS IN THE COMMUNITY BY THE GOVERNMENT'S OWN PUBLICITY PROGRAMMES AS WELL AS THOSE OF THE RECENTLY FORMED ENVIRONMENTAL CAMPAIGN COMMITTEE WHICH WILL GENERATE A DEMAND FOR MORE ENVIRONMENTALLY FRIENDLY CONSUMER PRODUCTS.

"ALL THIS ADDS UP TO A VERY ROUGH GUESS AT A DEMAND FOR GOODS AND SERVICES EXCEEDING \$50 BILLION IN THE COMING DECADE," DR REED SAID.

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HK PLANNING INTO NEXT CENTURY

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HONG KONG IS PLANNING FOR THE FUTURE, NOT JUST TO 1997 BUT WELL INTO THE NEXT CENTURY, THE DIRECTOR OF INDUSTRY, MR T.H. BARMA, SAID TODAY (WEDNESDAY).

SPEAKING AT AN INDUSTRIAL INVESTMENT PROMOTION SYMPOSIUM IN TOKYO, MR BARMA SAID WORK HAD BEGUN IN THE LAST FEW MONTHS ON SOME OF THE MOST AMBITIOUS ENGINEERING PROJECTS EVER IN HONG KONG'S HISTORY, WHICH WOULD BE IMPORTANT IN LAYING THE FOUNDATION FOR HONG KONG'S CONTINUED ECONOMIC GROWTH.

"THE CO-ORDINATED NEW INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT AND PORT DEVELOPMENT PROJECT, TOGETHER WITH THE ASSOCIATED TRANSPORT FACILITIES, CALL FOR CAPITAL EXPENDITURE OF US\$16.3 BILLION.

"THE NEW AIRPORT AT CHEK LAP KOK WILL BE ABLE TO HANDLE 80 MILLION PASSENGERS A YEAR, OVER THREE TIMES THE MAXIMUM CAPACITY OF THE EXISTING KAI TAK INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT.

"WITH REGARD TO THE EXPANSION OF OUR PORT, WE HAVE LOOKED AHEAD TO 2006, BY WHICH TIME WE SHALL NEED TO INCREASE OUR CONTAINER THROUGHPUT BY FIVE TIMES," HE SAID.

MR BARMA SAID THE METROPLAN PROPOSALS HAD A SIGNIFICANT BEARING ON THE PATTERN OF HONG KONG'S DEVELOPMENT IN THE FUTURE AND WERE DESIGNED TO RESTRUCTURE THE CITY "TO BRING ABOUT A BETTER ORGANISED, MORE EFFICIENT AND MORE DESIRABLE PLACE IN WHICH TO LIVE AND WORK".

METROPLAN OFFERED THE OPPORTUNITY TO REMOVE MANY OF THE INFRASTRUCTURAL CONSTRAINTS WHICH BORE UPON HONG KONG'S MANUFACTURING SECTOR. IT WOULD ALSO INVOLVE A DRAMATIC RELOCATION OF MANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES FROM WITHIN THE EXISTING URBAN AREA TO THE NEW TOWNS AND TO AREAS CLOSE TO THE NEW AIRPORT AND PORT FACILITIES.

"ALL THESE PROJECTS WILL INVOLVE THE PRIVATE SECTOR IN PROJECT FINANCE, ENGINEERING CONSULTANCY, CONSTRUCTION AND SUPPLY OF RAW MATERIALS.

"RESPONSE FROM THE PRIVATE SECTOR TO PARTICIPATION IN THESE PROJECTS HAS BEEN ENCOURAGING," HE SAID.

ON HONG KONG-CHINA RELATIONSHIPS, MR BARMA SAID CHINA AND HONG KONG WERE CLOSE INVESTMENT PARTNERS.

BY THE END OF 1988, CHINA BECAME THE THIRD LARGEST INVESTOR IN HONG KONG'S MANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES, ACCOUNTING FOR 11.3 PER CENT OF TOTAL OVERSEAS INVESTMENT.

ON THE OTHER HAND, HONG KONG ACCOUNTED FOR TWO-THIRDS OF THE REALISED DIRECT FOREIGN INVESTMENT IN CHINA, AT US\$11.5 BILLION.

/MR BARMA

MR BARMA SAID MOST OF HONG KONG'S INVESTMENT WAS IN GUANGDONG, PARTICULARLY IN THE PEARL RIVER DELTA REGION, IN THE FORM OF RELATIVELY LABOUR-INTENSIVE, OUTWARD PROCESSING ARRANGEMENTS OR JOINT VENTURES.

"THE SHIFT OF MORE LABOUR-INTENSIVE PROCESSES TO CHINA HAS HELPED EASE THE TIGHT LABOUR SITUATION IN HONG KONG, SUSTAIN THE GROWTH OF HONG KONG'S ECONOMY AND FACILITATE A DIVISION OF LABOUR WHEREBY HONG KONG COULD CONCENTRATE ON DEVELOPING MORE CAPITAL- AND TECHNOLOGY-INTENSIVE MANUFACTURING," HE SAID.

MR BARMA SAID THIS ECONOMIC INTER-DEPENDENCE HAD NOT BEEN CHANGED BY THE EVENTS WHICH TOOK PLACE IN CHINA IN JUNE LAST YEAR.

"CHINA HAS REPEATEDLY REAFFIRMED ITS 'OPEN DOOR' POLICY AND HONG KONG CONTINUES TO USE SOUTH CHINA FOR OUTWARD PROCESSING OPERATIONS, PROVIDING THE NECESSARY FINANCIAL, MARKETING AND TECHNICAL SUPPORT, INCLUDING PRODUCT DEVELOPMENT, QUALITY ASSURANCE, TESTING AND OTHER SKILL-INTENSIVE SERVICES," HE SAID.

TURNING TO JAPAN'S INVESTMENT IN HONG KONG, MR BARMA SAID HONG KONG HAD BEEN ONE OF THE MOST FAVOURED PLACE FOR JAPANESE INVESTORS FOR MORE THAN A DECADE.

ACCORDING TO FIGURES RELASED BY JAPAN'S MINISTRY OF INTERNATIONAL TRADE AND INDUSTRY (MITI), JAPAN'S TOTAL INVESTMENT IN HONG KONG AMOUNTED TO US\$7.11 BILLION UP TO THE FIRST HALF OF FISCAL YEAR 1989.

HONG KONG CONTINUED TO BE JAPAN'S SECOND MOST IMPORTANT INVESTMENT DESTINATION IN ASIA. SINCE THE FIRST HALF OF FISCAL YEAR 1988, JAPAN'S INVESTMENT IN HONG KONG GREW BY 35.7 PER CENT, COMPARED WITH 23.2 PER CENT FOR THE WHOLE OF ASIA.

HE SAID JAPAN WAS ALSO THE LARGEST INVESTOR IN 1988 IN HONG KONG'S MANUFACTURING SECTOR AS COMPARED WITH OTHER FOREIGN INVESTORS.

ACCORDING TO A SURVEY CONDUCTED BY THE INDUSTRY DEPARTMENT, JAPAN'S CUMULATIVE MANUFACTURING INVESTMENT IN HONG KONG, AT US\$893 MILLION, ACCOUNTED FOR OVER ONE-QUARTER (26.6 PER CENT) OF THE OVERALL TOTAL UP TO THE END OF 1988.

JAPAN REMAINED AS THE SECOND LARGEST OVERSEAS INVESTOR AFTER THE UNITED STATES, WHICH CONTRIBUTED 34 PER CENT.

MR BARMA SAID ONE SIGNIFICANT CHANGE FOR JAPANESE MANUFACTURING INTERESTS IN HONG KONG OVER THE YEARS WAS THAT JAPANESE INVESTMENT IN THE ELECTRONICS SECTOR HAD INCREASED BY LEAPS AND BOUNDS.

IN 1988, 34.1 PER CENT OF TOTAL INVESTMENT FROM JAPAN WAS IN THE ELECTRONICS INDUSTRY, COMPARED TO MERELY 18 PER CENT IN 1985. THIS CONTRASTED WITH A GRADUAL DROP IN THE SHARE OF INVESTMENT IN THE MANUFACTURE OF ELECTRICAL PRODUCTS AS WELL AS WATCHES AND CLOCKS.

HE SAID THERE WAS THUS A MARKED SHIFT OUT OF BASICALLY ASSEMBLY-TYPE OPERATIONS INTO RELATIVELY SOPHISTICATED PRODUCTS OF HIGHER QUALITY, REFLECTING GROWING CONFIDENCE IN HONG KONG'S ABILITY TO MANUFACTURE HIGHER END PRODUCTS.

MR BARMA SAID A NUMBER OF PRIVATE COMPANIES HAD ALSO RECOGNISED THE OPPORTUNITIES FOR HIGHER TECHNOLOGY IN HONG KONG'S INDUSTRIAL ACTIVITIES.

HE SAID THESE INCLUDED HIMONT EAST LTD, A SUBSIDIARY OF THE U.S. FIRM HIMONT INC; MOTOROLA OF THE U.S.; ALPHA METALS LTD OF THE UK; AND NIPPON ELECTRIC COMPANY LTD OF JAPAN. THE INVESTMENT BY EACH OF THESE COMPANIES RANGED FROM OVER US\$4 MILLION TO US\$77 MILLION.

MR BARMA TOLD JAPANESE COMPANY EXECUTIVES AT THE SYMPOSIUM: "HONG KONG IS A PLACE WHERE YOU CAN FIND OPPORTUNITIES AND CHALLENGES FOR COMMERCIAL AND INDUSTRIAL ACTIVITIES.

"THE OPPORTUNITY IS THERE FOR JAPANESE MANUFACTURING INTERESTS TO SHARE IN THIS DYNAMIC CITY THAT IS HONG KONG," HE SAID.

MORE THAN 150 JAPANESE COMPANY EXECUTIVES ATTENDED THE SYMPOSIUM WHICH WAS ORGANISED BY THE JAPAN EXTERNAL TRADE ORGANISATION (JETRO) TO PROMOTE JAPANESE INDUSTRIAL INVESTMENT IN HONG KONG.

MR BARMA WILL ALSO SPEAK ON THE SAME SUBJECT AT ANOTHER INDUSTRIAL INVESTMENT PROMOTION SYMPOSIUM IN YOKOHAMA TOMORROW (THURSDAY).

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FINANCE COMMITTEE TO MEET ON FRIDAY

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THE FINANCE COMMITTEE WILL HOLD A MEETING ON FRIDAY (JUNE 1), IN THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL CHAMBER.

THE MEETING WILL BEGIN AT 2.30 PM.

MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC ARE WELCOME TO OBSERVE THE COMMITTEE'S PROCEEDINGS FROM THE CHAMBER'S PUBLIC GALLERIES AND THEY MAY MAKE RESERVATIONS BY TELEPHONING 844 0899.

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WEDNESDAY, MAY 30, 1990

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BUSINESS EXPERIENCE FOR STUDENTS

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SENIOR SECONDARY STUDENTS RECENTLY BECAME MARKET RESEARCHERS, ACCOUNTANTS, RETAIL CONSULTANTS AND STOCKBROKERS IN A COMPETITION AIMED AT AROUSING THEIR INTEREST IN BUSINESS ACTIVITIES.

WINNERS OF THE 1990 COMMERCIAL SUBJECTS PROJECT COMPETITION WILL RECEIVE PRIZES AT A PRESENTATION CEREMONY ON FRIDAY (JUNE 1).

THE COMPETITION WAS ORGANISED BY THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT AND THE CHINESE GOLD AND SILVER EXCHANGE SOCIETY.

THE ASSISTANT DIRECTOR OF EDUCATION (CHIEF INSPECTOR OF SCHOOLS), MR TSUI SEE-MING, AND PRESIDENT OF THE CHINESE GOLD AND SILVER EXCHANGE SOCIETY, MR YIP SHIU-MING, WILL OFFICIATE AT THE CEREMONY.

THERE WERE SEVEN GROUPS OF ENTRIES:

- * FINANCIAL MARKET IN HONG KONG;
- * ADVERTISING IN HONG KONG;
- * RETAIL BUSINESS IN HONG KONG;
- * ACCOUNTING AND FINANCE;
- * OFFICE AUTOMATION;
- * HONG KONG'S FOREIGN TRADE; AND
- * STUDENTS' OWN CHOICE.

RESULTS OF THE WORK BY THE STUDENTS WERE PRESENTED IN THE FORM OF AN ESSAY, MODELS, PHOTOGRAPHS, DRAWINGS, SLIDES AND SOUND TAPES OR A COMBINATION OF THESE METHODS.

THE COMPETITION WAS OPEN TO STUDENTS WHO ARE TAKING COMMERCIAL SUBJECTS AT SENIOR SECONDARY LEVELS.

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NOTE TO EDITORS:

YOU ARE INVITED TO SEND REPRESENTATIVES TO COVER THE PRIZE PRESENTATION CEREMONY OF THE COMMERCIAL SUBJECTS PROJECT COMPETITION TO BE HELD IN MARINA ROOM 1, SECOND FLOOR, EXCELSIOR HOTEL, GLOUCESTER ROAD, CAUSEWAY BAY AT 3.30 PM ON FRIDAY (JUNE 1).

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SUPPORT FOR YAN CHAI HOSPITAL PROJECTS

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THE CITY AND NEW TERRITORIES ADMINISTRATION (CNTA) WILL CONTINUE TO SUPPORT THE YAN CHAI HOSPITAL IN IMPLEMENTING ITS VARIOUS PROJECTS, THE REGIONAL SECRETARY FOR THE NEW TERRITORIES, MR ADOLF HSU, SAID TODAY (WEDNESDAY).

MR HSU WAS SPEAKING DURING A COURTESY CALL THAT THE HOSPITAL'S BOARD OF DIRECTORS MADE ON THE CNTA.

HE SAID HE WAS PLEASED TO LEARN THAT THE BOARD AIMED TO COMPLETE EIGHT PROJECTS IN ACCORDANCE WITH PRIORITIES. THESE INCLUDED THE FOURTH PHASE OF THE HOSPITAL CLINICAL WING EXPANSION PROGRAMME, A HOSTEL FOR THE ELDERLY, A NURSERY, A CARE AND ATTENTION HOME FOR THE ELDERLY AND A PRE-VOCATIONAL SCHOOL.

"OTHER WELFARE SERVICES CURRENTLY PROVIDED BY THE HOSPITAL INCLUDE SIX NURSERIES, FOUR SOCIAL CENTRES FOR THE ELDERLY AND FIVE PRIMARY SCHOOLS," HE SAID, ADDING THAT ALL THESE HAD SERVED THE COMMUNITY WELL.

MR HSU ALSO NOTED THAT RAISING FUNDS FOR THE HOSPITAL'S VARIOUS SOCIAL SERVICE PROJECTS WAS ONE OF THE MAJOR TASKS FOR THE BOARD.

"JUDGING FROM THE RESULTS OF FUND-RAISING ACTIVITIES LAST YEAR, I AM CONFIDENT THAT THE BOARD WILL MEET ITS TARGET THIS YEAR. NO LESS THAN \$2 MILLION WAS RAISED BY THE BOARD'S 'ROAD SAFETY CHARITY DRIVE' LAST JULY," HE SAID.

MR HSU COMMENDED THE BOARD FOR ITS OTHER FUND-RAISING EFFORTS LAST YEAR, ADDING THAT THEY HAD CONTRIBUTED TOWARDS THE IMPLEMENTATION OF VARIOUS PROJECTS FOR THE NEEDY.

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YAN CHAI SERVICES ESSENTIAL IN THE NT

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YAN CHAI HOSPITAL IS NOW PLAYING AN IMPORTANT AND ESSENTIAL ROLE IN THE PROVISION OF MEDICAL SERVICES FOR RESIDENTS IN THE NEW TERRITORIES, THE DIRECTOR OF HOSPITAL SERVICES, DR T.Y. CHAU, SAID TODAY (WEDNESDAY).

DR CHAU MADE THESE REMARKS WHEN THE NEW BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF YAN CHAI HOSPITAL VISITED THE HOSPITAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT THIS MORNING.

"AFTER YEARS OF HARD WORK, THE FIRST THREE PHASES OF EXPANSION OF YAN CHAI HOSPITAL ARE NOW COMPLETED, AND WORK ON STAGE IV OF THE EXPANSION IS NOW IN FULL STEAM.

"WHEN THE WHOLE EXPANSION PROJECT IS COMPLETED IN EARLY 1992, YAN CHAI HOSPITAL WILL BE DEVELOPED INTO A GENERAL REGIONAL HOSPITAL WITH 700 BEDS TO PROVIDE MORE WIDE-RANGING MEDICAL SERVICES FOR RESIDENTS IN THE AREA," DR CHAU SAID.

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WEDNESDAY, MAY 30, 1990

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BRAVE FIREMAN COMMENDED

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THE CHIEF FIRE OFFICER (HONG KONG), MR RAYMOND JOHNSTON, TODAY (WEDNESDAY) PRAISED A FIREMAN FOR BRINGING CREDIT TO THE FIRE SERVICES.

AT A CEREMONY HELD AT THE WAN CHAI FIRE STATION, MR JOHNSTON PRESENTED THE CHIEF FIRE OFFICER'S COMMENDATION TO FIREMAN LO KAM-CHUEN FOR HIS INITIATIVE AND PROMPT AND PUBLIC SPIRITED ACTION, WHILE OFF-DUTY, IN RESCUING A PASSENGER IN A TRAFFIC ACCIDENT.

THE INCIDENT OCCURRED ABOUT 1.30 PM ON FEBRUARY 14 WHEN MR LO WAS ON THE WAY HOME IN A BUS PASSING BY TAI PO ROAD NEAR SCENERY COURT IN SHA TIN.

HE SAW A FULLY-LOADED CONTAINER TRUCK HAD TOPPLED AND CRUSHED A GOODS VEHICLE IN THE OPPOSITE LANE.

ALIGHTING FROM THE BUS, MR LO RAN TO THE GOODS VEHICLE IN WHICH TWO MEN WERE TRAPPED. THROUGH STRENUOUS EFFORT, HE MANAGED TO PULL OUT THE FRONT-SEAT PASSENGER BEFORE THE ARRIVAL OF FIREMEN.

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SWD VOLUNTEERS WIN YOUNG DISTRICT LEADERS AWARD

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TWO YOUNG PEOPLE WHO HAVE SPENT THEIR LEISURE TIME ON COMMUNITY WORK WERE TODAY (WEDNESDAY) COMMENDED FOR THEIR CONTRIBUTION AND COMMITMENT TO THEIR DISTRICTS.

MISS LAU PO-SHAN AND MR SINN PONG-NAM, VOLUNTEERS OF THE SOCIAL WELFARE DEPARTMENT'S KWUN TONG COMMUNITY CENTRE AND EASTERN DISTRICT YOUTH OFFICE RESPECTIVELY, WON THIS YEAR'S YOUNG DISTRICT LEADERS AWARD ORGANISED BY THE ZONTA CLUB IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE HONG KONG FEDERATION OF YOUTH GROUPS.

AN SWD SPOKESMAN SAID A TOTAL OF 13 VOLUNTEERS WERE NOMINATED FOR THE AWARD WHICH GIVES FORMAL RECOGNITION TO YOUNG LEADERS WHO CONTRIBUTE TOWARDS SHAPING A BETTER FUTURE FOR THEIR DISTRICTS.

"THESE VOLUNTEERS ARE MEMBERS OF OUR SUPPORTIVE OR SELF-PROGRAMMING GROUPS.

"OPERATED BY THE DEPARTMENT'S GROUP WORK UNIT, THEY AIM AT PROMOTING THE DEVELOPMENT OF PERSONAL GROWTH, A SENSE OF COMMUNITY RESPONSIBILITIES AND LEADERSHIP POTENTIAL, AND AT MEETING INDIVIDUAL SOCIAL NEEDS."

/A PRIMARY

WEDNESDAY, MAY 30, 1990

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A PRIMARY SCHOOL TEACHER, MISS LAU BECAME A VOLUNTEER IN 1985. AS THE LEADER OF A SELF-PROGRAMMING GROUP, SHE ORGANISED A WIDE VARIETY OF ACTIVITIES FOR CHILDREN, THE DISABLED AND ELDERLY IN SAU MAU PING, KWUN TONG.

MR SINN, A STUDENT, HAS PARTICIPATED IN YOUTH ACTIVITIES SINCE 1987. HE AND OTHER VOLUNTEERS FORMED A NEW GROUP LAST SUMMER AND PLANNED TO ORGANISE A NUMBER OF ACTIVITIES FOR EASTERN DISTRICT RESIDENTS THIS YEAR.

THREE OTHER VOLUNTEERS WERE AWARDED CERTIFICATES OF MERIT. THEY ARE MR CHAN KWOK-FAI OF NORTH DISTRICT, MISS YAU CHIU-FAI OF SHA TIN AND MISS YUEN YUEN-SIU OF WAN CHAI.

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\$45,000 SOUGHT FOR DEMOLISHING VILLAGE INCINERATORS

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SAI KUNG DISTRICT BOARD MEMBERS WILL CONSIDER THE ALLOCATION OF \$45,000 FOR DEMOLISHING FIVE DESERTED VILLAGE INCINERATORS AT THE BOARD'S MEETING ON FRIDAY (JUNE 1).

THE INCINERATORS ARE AT PAK SHEK WO, MAU WU TSAI, LUK MEI, PAK SHA O AND SHE TAU.

MEMBERS WILL ALSO EXAMINE PROGRESS REPORTS OF FIVE DISTRICT BOARD COMMITTEES AND THE SAI KUNG DISTRICT FIGHT CRIME COMMITTEE.

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NOTE TO EDITORS:

MEDIA REPRESENTATIVES ARE INVITED TO COVER THE SAI KUNG DISTRICT BOARD MEETING ON FRIDAY (JUNE 1) IN THE DB CONFERENCE ROOM, SECOND FLOOR, SAI KUNG GOVERNMENT OFFICES, 34 CHAN MAN STREET, SAI KUNG TOWN. THE MEETING WILL BEGIN AT 10 AM.

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